

the quickest return is from planting
berries. If set out early in spring
they will bear a moderate crop the same
season. We have repeatedly obtained
fine ripe berries seven weeks from the
day they were set out. The second year

It the bed is kept clean, the product will be abundant. Wilson's Albany will safely yield, any year, a bushel from a square rod, or about two quarts a day for half a month.

Musk melons and water melons will yield their delicious products four months after planting.

Gooseberries, currants, raspberries and blackberries all bear at about the same period from the time of setting out. Good sized gooseberry plants, say a foot and a half high, will give a good crop of berries of their size the second year. W.

Dwarf pears of the right sorts, and under the right management, come quickly into bearing. The most prolific sorts give

some ripens the second year, and more afterwards. Among the dwarf pear which bear soon are Louise Bonne de Jersey, Doyenne d'Ete, White Doyenne, Giftard, Fontenay, Jalousie, Josephine de Malines, etc. The following sorts bear nearly as early on pear stock, viz: Bartlett, Seckel, Winter Nelis, Washington Onondaga, Howell, Fasse Colmar, Ju-lienne.

Grapes afford fruit soon—usually be-

ginnings to bear the second and third year. The Isabella, York, Madeira, Diana and Delaware are particularly recommended for this purpose at the North, and the Catawba may be added to the Middle States, wherever it does not rot.

Dwarf apples should not be entirely overlooked in the list of early bearers. Half a peck per tree is often obtained the third year from the most productive sorts.

A good supply of all the preceding will

be sufficient to furnish a family with these wholesome luxuries from within a year, or two of occupying entirely new premises, and will not only add greatly to the comforts and attractions of home, but contribute materially to the uniform health of the occupants.

[Thomas' American Fruit Cultivist.

WHY IT IS THAT POTATOES YIELD LESS THAN FORMERLY.—A correspondent wishes to be told why the yield of potatoes is less than formerly. The answer is, that the soil is exhausted, and the potatoes are not properly cared for. The soil should be well manured, and the potatoes should be planted in rows, and not in hills. The rows should be well covered with soil, and the potatoes should be kept in a cool, dry place, and not in a warm, damp one. The potatoes should be kept in a cool, dry place, and not in a warm, damp one.

law of nature, embracing animals as well as vegetable organisms. These all have excretory as well as secretory functions. All throw off effete matter, and this effete matter is hateful to the secretory vessels on which vegetables depend for their development. If many crops in succession, of the same vegetable, are grown, the effete matter increases in proportion to

the nutritive, and finally overcomes all efforts at successful cultivation. The food decreases, and the poison increases, with every crop. If manure, general or special, is added to the soil, it increases the food, but does not necessarily diminish the poisonous effect matter. One hundred years ago potatoes were but little cultivated, and most grounds were left fresh for their production. Then and long afterwards, 400 bushels was not an

extraordinary yield. Now the increased taste for its use, and the great augmentation of our people, in number and ability to purchase, have made it necessary that great breadths of land should be used for its growth. In consequence of this, much of the land has become weakened to a degree that invites destructive enemies to feed on its substance—to take advantage of its weakened organization. Hence the rot, so-called

and other ailments. Mother earth is a good mother, but like her sex generally, she has a taste for variety in outer adornment. She will change her dress, even the most durable of her fabrics, her forests. These are ever varying in composition, and finally thrown off altogether for grasses. These, again, have their round of varieties, and, in a long course of years, give place to other plants. Mother earth will have her way, and those of us, her

PRUNING DWARF PEARS.—At a late meeting of horticulturists at Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Elliott said that the public generally wanted tall, straight trees, and in conformity to this, the nurserymen had got to trimming up the stems, leaving a few lateral branches so as to form a little top. And again, they were to be

in the rows that they had but little chance to form that bushy head which was desirable. However, taking the tree as it came from the nursery, getting thrifty one-year-old trees, if possible, he would cut back severely—that is, cut back all the laterals to one or two buds, and cut the top down enough to make the dormant buds, in the stem near the ground, start; this would leave nearly a naked stem about two feet high.

The first year he would do no more to it; the second spring he would cut back the last year's growth to two or three buds, leaving the tree in a round, bushy shape, getting the head as low and near the ground as possible. This process of spring pruning was to be continued until the head was formed, with perhaps some exceptions, to-wit, as one of them: If a tree grow very strong, as was sometimes the case, throwing up shoots four, six or

seven feet long, he would leave them until about the 20th of July, and then cut away about two-thirds of the previous year's growth. The reason for this is that, if cut in spring, the vigor of the tree would cause a new growth of strong, thrifty shoots, while if left till the 20th of July the growth would be checked and the formation of fruit spurs induced. For the same reason, he would do much of his pruning by pinching in the ends of

SELECTING POULTRY MEAT.—A young turkey has a smooth leg, and a soft bill, and if fresh, the eyes will be bright and the feet moist. Old turkeys have stiff, scaly feet.

Young fowls have a tender skin, smooth legs and the breast bone yields readily to the pressure of the finger. The best are those that have yellow legs. The feet and

Young ducks feel tender under the wings and the web of the foot is transparent. The best are thick and hard on the breast.

Young geese have yellow bills, and the feet are yellow and supple. The skin may be easily broken by the head of a pin; the breast is plump and the fat white. An old goose is unfit for the human stomach.

POWDER is most easily picked if scalded, and this renders the skins liable to be torn, and consequently they will not look so nice.

MOSS ON APPLE TREES.—The moss on your young apple trees is not the cause, but rather in consequence, of the decay of the trees. If your trees were properly set, and if you have kept the ground cultivated to some good crop since, as you should do, applying a coat of manure

around each tree, for a space of five to ten feet, according to the size of the trees, and forking it in above the roots of the trees, their decay must be attributed to some cause beyond the science of pomologists to state what it is, without being present on the premises where the trees are grown. Sometimes severe frost will so injure the trunks of apple trees as to cause the bark to split open and peel off, and if your trees have been thus injured it will

PRESERVING OKRA.—One of the most healthy and nutritious vegetables is the okra, which is raised in such abundance in our climate. We are surprised that so little attention is given to preserving it for use all through the winter, when it can be done so easily and cheaply. The following recipe for doing it is furnished by one of our most practical and experienced gardeners and agriculturists:

Take a clean barrel, sprinkle salt in the bottom (cover the bottom); then lay down a layer of okra evenly over the surface of the salt; then, on this, another layer of okra, as before, and so on till the barrel is full, or you have put as much as desired, covering the whole, when done, with a thick layer of salt.

TO MAKE A STACK SETTLE TRUE.—There are two things to do this: keeping

the center up, and pitching-on from all sides. This last makes the stack settle evenly. Pitching on two sides will do once; but it is not so good, as it does not make it evenly solid all round, but leaves some parts lower, where the water is apt to settle. By keeping the stack high in the center, as it is built up and sloping outward, the rain will be unable to penetrate, as, like a roof, it will ward it off. Keep high in the middle from top

LINE FENCE.—The man who has bought the farm adjoining yours has no right to demand that the division of the fence should be changed from what it was when the previous owner held it, that division was equitable; and the last owner is bound to keep the same half in repair that his predecessor did. No matter how much he neglected to keep an

fence in good repair, the last owner step into his shoes, and cannot get rid of liability to make such fence as the law directs between different owners.

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